

Fiscal Note

Fiscal Services Division



SF 339 – School Vehicle Transportation Safety (LSB 1029SV.1220)
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Fiscal Note Version – As Amended by House Education Committee Amendment **H-1220**

Description

Senate File 339, as amended by **H-1220**, makes changes to inspections for vehicles used to transport students.

Background

Currently, only school buses are required to be inspected by the Department of Education. This Bill expands the requirement for inspections to include all vehicles used to transport children. Amendment **H-1220** specifies all vehicles and buses, that receive an out-of-service violation, are subject to a subsequent inspection within 30 days. Out-of-service violations are items (including but not limited to bald tires, cracked brake linings, stop arms not operational, burned out warning lights or headlights) that must be fixed before the vehicle can be used for student transportation. If a vehicle does not pass a subsequent inspection and receives an out-of-service violation, it is removed from service until the vehicle passes inspection. Additionally, this Bill specifies that the State Board of Education will adopt rules for the inspections of all vehicles and the rules must allow for inspections to be conducted by qualified private automobile mechanics or the Department of Education.

The amendment specifies an individual that knowingly falsifies an inspection record for a school bus or vehicle, has committed a simple misdemeanor.

Assumptions

- The Department of Education estimates 1,200 additional vehicles will be inspected twice each year.
- Based on historical data, approximately 120 (10.0%) of the additional vehicles inspected will be found to have an out-of-service violation and be subject to a subsequent inspection twice each year.
- Based on the last full inspection year, 1,452 vehicles will be found to have an out-of-service violation and require a subsequent inspection.
- The department's inspection fee will be \$40 beginning in FY 2014. The cost of private automobile mechanic fees is assumed to be similar to the department's fees.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact to the State General Fund.

Beginning in FY 2014, the estimated statewide total cost to local school districts is estimated to be \$163,680. The average cost per school district is estimated to be \$470.

Correctional Impact

Refer to the **Correctional Impact Memo** dated February 11, 2013, for information related to correctional penalties of a simple misdemeanor. This Bill will have a minimal correctional impact.

Sources

Department of Education

Iowa Administrative Code, [281 – 43.30](#) (updated rule pending approval)

/s/ Holly M. Lyons

April 2, 2013

The fiscal note for this bill was prepared pursuant to [Joint Rule 17](#) and the Iowa Code. Data used in developing this fiscal note is available from the Fiscal Services Division of the Legislative Services Agency upon request.
